

St Peter's Church, Wrecclesham - Weekly News Sheet for 12th December 2021

Third Sunday of Advent

Zephaniah 3.14-20; Philippians 4.4-7; Gospel: Luke 3.7-18

Hymns/Songs: O for a thousand tongues (270) – On Jordan's Bank (513) – Come thou long expected Jesus(117)
– Communion – The last tree in the greenwood (Anthem) –
For Mary, mother of our Lord (166) – Lo, he comes with clouds descending (399)

LINK FOR THE LIVESTREAM SERVICE - <https://cofewrecclesham.org.uk/streamed-services/>

Please click on the link from ten minutes beforehand and there will be the livestream link to take you to the service

Thank you - A warm welcome and thanks to **Bishop Christopher Herbert** WHO will be presiding and preaching at the **8am service** of Holy Communion this week – and **Rev Sandy** will be presiding and preaching at the 10am Parish Communion for this Third Sunday of Advent.

The Collect for the Third Sunday of Advent

O Lord Jesus Christ, who at your first coming sent your messenger to prepare your way before you: grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready your way by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at your second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in your sight; for you are alive and reign with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for. **Amen**

This week prayers are asked for – Sheila Carver (Jonathan's Mother), John Knight, and for Sharon (Dawn's sister), Zoe Perkins, Andrew Jones (who has had an long-awaited operation on his foot & is convalescing)
RIP – Reginald Green, John G Barnard
Please pray for the life and work of our Church, that we might be part of God's loving and transforming grace here in our place...

COMING UP

REFRESH – THIS AFTERNOON ! – Christmas Celebration with Zoe & the team – 4-5pm – refreshments, nativity fun & relaxed worship – together 😊 **COME & CHECK OUT THE NEW REFRESHMENT IDEA!** 😊

CRIB – A HUGE THANK YOU to Jim Jeffery, who not only made our beautiful crib, but has now put it up as we prepare for a very special guest...

CHRISTMAS TREE – we now have the Christmas Tree that has found a worthy home in the chancel – thank you to those who have arranged for our tree this year...

CHRISTINGLE – 19TH DECEMBER, 10AM – We will be having our Christingle-nativity next week and the Wrecclesham Songbirds will be singing for us – it will be busier than usual next week so perhaps come a bit earlier if you like to sit in a particular place – as usual there will be seats for sitting in a more socially-distanced space.

COMMUNITY CAROLS @ ST PETER'S PLAYGROUND – SATURDAY 18TH, 4PM – bring a torch!

CAROL SERVICE, 19TH DEC, 6PM - REMINDER – BOOKING REQUIRED FOR THIS – and Christmas Eve Nativity services 2.30pm & 4pm

Please use Eventbrite links below:

Carol Service - <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/215215213497>

Crib Service - 2.30PM -

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/230pm-christmas-eve-crib-service-tickets-215436385027>

Crib Service – 4pm - <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/christmas-eve-crib-service-tickets-215422052157>

– or email vicar@cofewrecclesham.org.uk /Tel: 01252 716431

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL – HUGE THANKS TO ALL WHO HELPED & TOOK PART – a lovely weekend of festive fellowship, carolling and amazingly creative and beautiful trees!

WREATH MAKING – HUGE THANKS TO ALL WHO HELPED & TOOK PART – 67 wreaths! – ESPECIALLY TO AMAZING LEADER WENDY & TEAM WREATH-MAKING – Vanda, Jenny, Jill, Chris, Pat, Sue, Rosemary, Susan, Victoria, Polly – and to Rob for sorting the tables out & Sam and Rob for helping to clear up at the end of each of the sessions! it was lovely to see everyone enjoying the creating of some beautiful wreaths – such a happy and hopeful time – fun and festive fellowship!

ADVENT COURSE – week 4, 16th december While we watch and wait...

Advent with the Saints Join our St Peter's online Advent group, starting 8pm on Thursday 25th November. Email Naomi: nrparkintyrie@gmail.com or Steven: stevenknowles1@gmail.com for further details or link in at *Zoom link*: <https://zoom.us/j/91456521416?pwd=TEJmajVxU3hFSG1ZKzh6dk5yWHFzQT09>

URGENT! WE NEED A TREASURER - NOW! – Pat Lapworth will be standing down in 2022 after an amazing ten years of being the St Peter's Treasurer and Pat has the accounts running like clockwork. If this is something you might be able to commit to, or if you know of anyone, please be in contact with Pat or myself to talk more.

Farnham Community News –

It's in the Bag: help the Hygiene Bank support 450 people in need

Each year the Hygiene Bank launches an appeal to support those who are homeless, women and children at risk, and care leavers in supported housing to receive the hygiene products they need. This year, at donation points across the town, you can help by giving essential toiletry products, along with a luxury item or two. Donation points can be found here by entering your postcode: <https://thehygienebank.com/christmas-appeal-itsinthebag-2021/> Alex, the Project Manager, shared: “*It is going to be a struggle to fulfil that number of bags so any help we can get with promotion of the campaign would be very much appreciated. We are a volunteer organisation so we're relying on donations from the public. The campaign runs through to end of November to allow us time to collect and distribute before Christmas.*”

Christmas Lunch Deliveries, Right at Home

After the success of last year, Right at Home are running their Christmas Lunch initiative, where volunteers to make an extra portion of their lunch and deliver this to a person in need. Right at Home match volunteers to a person in need, aiming to keep this within a 5 mile radius, a week or so before Christmas. They provide everything needed to transport the meals and there is usually extras like Christmas cards from a local school and donations from Waitrose. It is a super easy way to really make a difference to someone this Christmas when loneliness and isolation feels emphasised.

The link to sign up is here: [Christmas Lunch Volunteer](#)

They also want to know if you know someone or perhaps your clients might be in need of a Christmas lunch and a bit of festive cheer, if so you can make a referral here: [Yes please, I would like a Christmas Day delivery](#)

Lion's Project Wenceslas fighting fuel poverty

On the 25th Nov the Lions are launching their initiative encouraging people to share their winter fuel allowance with those who need extra funds. With the rise in fuel prices, donating this year is more important than ever. The money goes straight to utility companies and allows fuel cards to be topped up; there is no limit on the relief as well. If you know anyone in need, please refer them to the Lions, a referral can come from any organisation. Attached is the application form for referring someone. For more details:

<https://www.lionsgiving.co.uk/Appeal/farnhamwenceslas>

Hale Christmas Tree Festival and Market, Sat 18th December

Hale Community Centre are hosting Christmas Market with stalls, games, toys, food and much more. There is an opportunity to visit Santa, and they are inviting local families, groups and businesses to enter the Christmas Tree Festival. To find out more about entering email info@halecommunitycentre.org.uk by Fri 10 Dec. Anyone who would like a stall please email: haleccprojects@gmail.com

Attached is a poster to share onwards

Farnham Foodbank

They will be supporting 400 families this Christmas to receive Hampers, with support from the Hedgehog on deliveries, with referrals coming mainly through schools. They are experiencing similar demand for food parcels as the same time last year.

Brightwells Gostrey

22nd December will be hosting a Christmas lunch for clients. Community Meal Service continues to provide vital support to the most vulnerable members of the community, helping to ensure that they regularly have a fresh, nutritionally balanced meal.

Since re-opening doors in June, have seen a 61% increase in clients, who have the opportunity to partake in physical activity, receive entertainment and visits from local school children. Plans are in place for a dedicated bus service in the new year.

NEW - ISH!

Moira Davies has written a most interesting book – ‘Boundstone in the 1960s – this is available for £2 which will be donated to charity (apologies, I can't remember which one – I will confirm next week...)

WRECCLESHAM OVER 60'S – On 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month @ 1.30pm – a lovely group meet at the Leverton Hall – please pick up a leaflet for information....

Morning Prayer on Zoom – Wednesdays at 9.30am (NEW LINK)

<https://zoom.us/j/99052560006?pwd=RVROa2J6MGdEcGg3UWVVJQTFTc2t4QT09>

Please contact Jacqueline on vicar@cofewrecclesham.org.uk or 716431 / 07806 775974 if you have a notice to share – or if you would like to talk about something else – her day off is a Monday....

Thank you

- To those who have helped with services today & supplied refreshments – very much appreciated and valued
- To Sandy for covering the service this week – hugely appreciated
- To Naomi and Steven for leading our Advent Series this year...
- To all those who are quietly keeping the show on the road

HELPING TO KEEP THE ST PETER'S SHOW ON THE ROAD! (see notices above and this!)

PCC SECRETARY - Naomi Parkin-Tyrie will also be standing down in 2022 as PCC Secretary after three years of faithful and very efficient service. If this might be something you can help with, then please be in contact with Naomi – or myself to find out more.

REMINDER – A short version of **Daily Prayer is available on the Church of England Website and as an App.**
<https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-service-daily-prayer> [Download Time To Pray app](#)
[Access the text online](#)

Farnham Foodbank – THE BASKET IS NOW LOCATED AT THE CHURCH!

- **Please only donate long-life goods – fresh and perishable goods cannot be accepted** – thank you for all that you contribute
- Please continue to put donations in the basket at St Peter's, and Lizzy Hendry & Stephanie Robinson will kindly be taking the food to the Foodbank. **Jacqueline holds Foodbank vouchers** - please contact her if you or anyone you know would benefit.

St Peter's WhatsApp Group – a lovely way to share little bits and pieces of our daily lives and thoughts – Please be in touch with Jacqueline 07806 775974 or vicar@cofewrecclesham.org.uk who can pass your details to Naomi....

Schroder Trust - Funding is available from the Schroder Trust for Wrecclesham residents and organisations who are in need of assistance – please speak to Rob Durrant, Rev Jacqueline or Jack Crawford for further information and Farnham Town Council for the application form - <https://www.farnham.gov.uk/services/grants/the-isabella-schroder-trust>

Readings for Third Sunday of Advent – Year C

Old Testament Reading: Zephaniah 3.14-20 - ¹⁴Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! ¹⁵The LORD has taken away the judgements against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. ¹⁶On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. ¹⁷The LORD, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love, he will exult over you with loud singing ¹⁸as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. ¹⁹I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. ²⁰At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the LORD.

Reading 2: - Philippians 4.4-7 - ⁴Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Gospel Reading – Luke 3:7-18 - ⁷John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ⁹Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.'

¹⁰And the crowds asked him, 'What then should we do?' ¹¹In reply he said to them, 'Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.' ¹²Even tax-collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, 'Teacher, what should we do?' ¹³He said to them, 'Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.' ¹⁴Soldiers also asked him, 'And we, what should we do?' He said to them, 'Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.' ¹⁵As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶John answered all of them by saying, 'I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.' ¹⁸So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people